

A Judicial Magistrate.

A. J. Swinson, the somewhat auto-matic magistrate of the District Court, was brought before his Honor, Judge McKoy, upon a bench warrant issued upon the affidavit of his son for beating his wife. Mr. McKoy appeared with the Solicitor, for the State, and ex-Judge Russell for the defendant.

Mrs. Swinson testified that on the 10th day of April last her husband struck her with his left hand and struck her over the head with a press board, inflicting a severe blow, knocking her down. When she was getting up, her husband, who was holding her head, the day following a recurrence he posted his premises and house, prohibiting any one visiting them except with his permission. On the 20th of March he asked her and beat her badly with his fist. (This was objected to and the object was sustained.)

Nothing new was elicited in the cross-examination.

Miss Maggie Swinson was next examined. She testified that she knew her father-in-law, and that she was in just as her father-in-law asked her where her son was, and was told, he then demanded to know where his silver money was. He was told that it was in the trunk. He then told her if she had spent any of it. She said she had when she went to the hotel. He cursed her, insisting that she spent it when in Washington.

He then struck her, and as he left he said again, telling her she would get plenty of it. She then testified that she was lying on the bed, and ran to inform her neighbors, thinking her mother was dead. Her mother was confined to her bed for nearly a week. She also testified in regard to her father's posting the house and premises.

Sandy Pritchett, colored, was called for the defense. He was there the day of the fracas, but did not see any person or blood; had heard Mrs. Swinson say hard things about her husband, but did not pay any particular attention as he knew how it was between man and wife. He had heard Mr. Swinson say kind things about his wife.

Edmond Anders testified that he had heard Mrs. Swinson say very angry things about her husband, that she wished he could be sent to the penitentiary. He seemed to love his family very much and was very kind to them.

Mr. J. C. Hillman was frequently called. He said he knew these parties lived in very good terms, and that he had known Mrs. Swinson for more than fifteen years. Had never heard her use one harsh word about her husband. She had the character of being a good woman.

This closed the evidence, and both Judge Russell and Mr. Bellamy submitted remarks to His Honor, who found the defendant over in a bond of two hundred dollars to appear at the next term of Brunswick Superior Court and to keep the peace in the meantime.

Convention of the Democratic Conservative Party of New Hanover.

A Convention of the Democratic Conservative party of New Hanover will be held at the Court House in the city of Wilmington at three o'clock on Saturday, the 20th May, 1876, to appoint delegates to the District and State Conventions and to take such action in reference to the nomination of county candidates as may be deemed proper.

Each ward in the city and township in the county will be entitled to vote in said convention according to the Democratic Conservative vote cast in said ward or township in the last gubernatorial election.

Meetings to choose delegates to said convention will be held in the several wards of the city and township of Wilmington upon call of D. McKay, Esq., the Chairman of the Executive Committee for said city and township.

Then being no executive committee in the other townships, Messrs. John W. C. Hillman, of Cape Fear; Thomas J. Hill, of Brunswick; John J. Bellamy, of Federal Point, and John J. Bellamy, of Mosside, members of the County Executive Committee, are requested to call similar meetings in their respective townships.

By order of the Executive Committee, W. M. SANDERS, Chairman, WALTER COOPER, Secretary.

The Acquisition of the Strangers.

It was with intense gratification that this community received intelligence on yesterday that Mr. Thomas Wright Strange had been finally acquitted in Brunswick Superior Court. The judge stated that the jury had returned a verdict of acquittal on Tuesday afternoon, one hour after the case was given to them.

No event of a like nature has given since universal joy to our people. Col. Strange and his son had the entire sympathy of the community during the severe ordeal through which they have passed, and while it was believed that the innocence of Mr. Thomas Strange would surely be declared by the jury, yet the sympathetic chord was vibrantly touched that there was a long drawn battle between the law and the truth.

THE COURTS.

DISTRICT COURT. The United States District Court took up the criminal docket yesterday and was engaged with the trial of several cases that arose under the internal revenue laws. There were two cases of this kind against Avery from Cumberland county for selling from license without a license. They proved to be mere technical violations of the law and after conviction the Court suspended judgment on the payment of costs in each case.

SUPERIOR COURT.

The following cases have been disposed of since our last report: State vs. Adeline Simpson, larceny. Defendant submits judgment on bond on payment of costs and to give bond for appearance at the next term of court.

State vs. Alfred Fayter, judgment according to *ex parte*, remitted upon payment of costs and costs of indictment.

State vs. Cornelia Harris. Same judgment as above.

State vs. William Register. Same judgment as above.

State vs. Jack Lee, larceny. Not given.

term of Court. Defendant said to be insane.

State vs. Laura Hill, larceny, not guilty. State vs. Alfred Fayter, judgment according to *ex parte*, remitted upon payment of costs and costs of indictment.

State vs. William Register. Same judgment as above. State vs. Jack Lee, larceny. Not given.

For the Penitentiary.

So far the Superior Court, which is now in session, has sentenced sixteen persons to hard labor in the penitentiary, for terms varying from 3 to 10 years. The aggregate number of years of labor which the State will get on these convicts is equal to the labor of one man for 93 years.

Leap Year Ball in Clinton.

DEAR JOHNNIE!—It has been my fortune to attend an affair of this kind, and I have been to the Leap Year and Chicle Ball given by the young ladies of Clinton and the surrounding country on the 25th of April.

The ball room was literally crowded with beautiful young ladies and gallant young men, and although I had been told that Clinton was not a beautiful place, yet I was not prepared to see an array of beauty unequalled by any place of the same size.

All the ladies wore calico dresses; and if they knew how lovely, how graceful and how captivating they were, they would have worn calico. Of course every man wore a gray waist of a piece of his sweetheart's dress, and the ladies wore calico dresses and a piece of their father's coat.

At the ball, at about 9 o'clock the music and with its voluptuous swell, and as the enlivening strains floated on the air, filling the room with concord and harmony, the ladies and gentlemen, who had been so long waiting, began to move.

Each man had a card, and each card was a masterpiece of calligraphy. The card was a masterpiece of calligraphy, and each card was a masterpiece of calligraphy. The card was a masterpiece of calligraphy, and each card was a masterpiece of calligraphy.

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BY TELEGRAPH.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—The World and the Nation. The House has decided to take up the bill for the relief of the Union Pacific Railroad.

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